



9-2-05

RCE/PM

PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/492,044
Filing Date	January 26, 2000
First Named Inventor	Gentaro Okayasu
Group Art Unit	2162
Examiner Name	Joon H. Hwang
Attorney Docket Number	450100-02278

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under CFR 1.114.** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iv. ☐ Other _____
2. **Miscellaneous**
- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$790.00 is enclosed for the following:
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit Card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Signature	<i>Thomas F. Presson</i>	Date	September 7, 2005
Name (Print/Type)	Thomas F. Presson	Registration No.	41,442

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

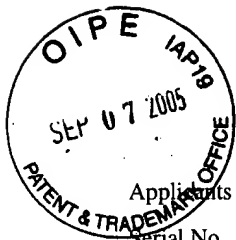
Name (Print/Type)	<i>David Barnett Shindler</i>
Signature	<i>David Barnett Shindler</i>
Date:	September 7, 2005

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 723369950 US

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) and application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.1 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the complete provisional application to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT
450100-02278

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Gentaro Okayasu, et al.
Serial No. : 09/492,044
Filed : January 26, 2000
For : FREE STORAGE SPACE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD
Examiner : Joon H. Hwang
Art Unit : 2162

745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151
Tel: 212-588-0800

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below.
☐ This is an application of a small entity under 37 CFR 1.9(f), and the amounts shown in parentheses apply.

Claims as Amended

(1)	(2) Claims remaining after amendment	(3)	(4) Highest number previously paid for	(5) Present extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total claims	8	Minus	** =20	* 0 x	\$50 (25)	= \$ 0
Independent claims	2	Minus	*** =3	* 0 x	\$200 (100)	= \$ 0
Total additional fee for this amendment						\$ 0

- * If the entry in Column 2 is less than the entry in Column 4, write "0" in Column 5.
** If the highest number of total claims previously paid for is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
*** If the highest number of independent claims previously paid for is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

- ☐ This application contains a multiple dependent claim. The required fee of \$280(140) has been previously paid ☐, or is paid herewith ☐.
- ☐ This response is being filed within the ____ month following the expiration of the term originally set therefor. This is a petition to request a ____ month extension of time. A check covering the cost of the petition is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$____ is attached, which covers the cost of ☐ additional claims ☐ petition for extension of time.
- ☐ Charge \$____ to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- ☒ Please charge any additional fees incurred by reason of this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

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Date of Deposit: September 7, 2005

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Barnet Shindman
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

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Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
Attorneys for Applicants

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